AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for triggering a restraint device[[s]], comprising:

a control unit; and

~~crash sensors inside and~~ at least one vehicle sensor located outside of the control unit;

wherein the control unit is configured to check a crash signal generated by at least a first one of a plurality of crash sensors against ~~in accordance with~~ a first plausibility signal received from the at least one vehicle sensor ~~a vehicle sensor outside of the control unit~~ and to trigger the restraint device[[s]] as a function of the crash signal and the first plausibility signal, and wherein only the plurality of crash sensors is configured to generate the crash signal.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the ~~apparatus receives the first plausibility signal from~~ at least one vehicle sensor is part of a vehicle dynamics control system.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein ~~at least one of the crash sensors includes~~ the at least a first one of the plurality of crash sensors is a side-impact sensor, the control unit configured to plausibilize the crash signal of the side impact sensor in accordance with the first plausibility signal from the vehicle dynamics control system.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the ~~apparatus receives the first plausibility signal from~~ at least one vehicle sensor is part of a knock control system.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the knock control system is configured to analyze a structure-borne sound signal for a presence of a crash signature and to generate, independent of the plurality of crash sensors, the first plausibility signal as a function of the crash signature.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the apparatus is configured to generate a second plausibility signal via at least a second one of the plurality of crash sensors

and to trigger the restraint device[[s]] as a function of the crash signal and one of (a) the first plausibility signal and (b) the second plausibility signal.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for triggering a restraint device[[s]], comprising:

control means; and

~~crash sensing means inside and~~ at least one vehicle sensing means located outside of the control means;

wherein the control means is for checking a crash signal generated by at least a first one of a plurality of crash sensing means against ~~in accordance with~~ a first plausibility signal received from ~~vehicle sensor means outside of the control~~ the at least one vehicle sensing means and for triggering the restraint device[[s]] as a function of the crash signal and the first plausibility signal, and wherein only the plurality of crash sensing means is configured to generate the crash signal.